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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. [Previously Presented] A crack-resistant printing paper or board comprising a cellulose fiber network web; and a thin layer of a polymer material impregnated into the web in discontinuous geometrical formations, wherein the polymer material is no more than 5% of the basis weight of the paper or board.

2. [Previously presented] The crack-resistant paper or board as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the polymer material is a thermoplastic or thermoset material.

3. [Previously presented] The crack-resistant paper or board as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the geometrical formations are rectangular stripes, equidistant circles or diamond-shape formations.

4. [Cancelled]

5. [Cancelled]

6. [Original] The crack-resistant paper or board as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of a latex blend, an acrylic polymer, a polyester resin and a liquid crystalline polymer.

7. [Cancelled]

8. [Original] The crack-resistant paper or board as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the paper or board has a polymer material coated on a surface of the paper or board.

9. [Cancelled]

10. [Cancelled]

11. [Cancelled]

12. [Cancelled]

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13. [Cancelled]

14. [Cancelled]

15. [Cancelled]

16. [Cancelled]

17. [Cancelled]

18. [Previously Presented] A crack-resistant printing paper or board comprising a cellulose fiber network web; and a thin discontinuous polymer material impregnated into the web in geometrical formations, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of poly-butadiene, acrylonitrile-butadiene, ethylene vinyl acetate-butadiene, polyhydroxybutyrate-butanoate and a cellulose acetate butyrate, wherein the polymer material is no more than 5% of the basis weight of the paper or board.

19. [Cancelled]

20. [Previously presented] The crack-resistant paper or board as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of diene-based rubber, acrylics, latex blends, polyesters and any combination thereof.

21. [Previously presented] The crack-resistant paper or board as claimed in Claim 1 wherein said fibers are pulp fibers.

22. [Previously presented] The crack-resistant paper or board as claimed in Claim 3 wherein the geometrical formations are rectangular stripes.

23. [Previously presented] The crack-resistant paper or board as claimed in Claim 3 wherein the geometrical formations are equi-distant circles.

24. [Previously presented] The crack-resistant paper or board as claimed in Claim 3 wherein the geometrical formations are diamond-shape formations.

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25. [Previously presented] A crack-resistant paper or board consisting essentially of a cellulose fiber network web; and a thin layer of a polymer material impregnated in the web in discontinuous geometrical formations, wherein the polymer material is no more than 5% of the basis weight of the paper or board.

26. [Previously presented] The crack-resistant paper or board as claimed in Claim 25, wherein the polymer material is a thermoplastic or thermoset material.

27. [Previously presented] The crack-resistant paper or board as claimed in Claim 25, wherein the geometrical formations are rectangular stripes, equi-distant circles or diamond-shape formations.

28. [Cancelled]

29. [Previously presented] The crack-resistant paper or board as claimed in Claim 25, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of a latex blend, an acrylic polymer, a polyester resin and a liquid crystalline polymer.

30. [Cancelled]

31. [Previously presented] The crack-resistant paper or board as claimed in Claim 25, wherein the paper or board has a polymer material coated on a surface of the paper or board.

32. [Previously presented] The crack-resistant paper or board as claimed in Claim 25 wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of diene-based rubber, acrylics, latex blends, polyesters and any combination thereof.

33. [Previously presented] The crack-resistant paper or board as claimed in Claim 25 wherein said fibers are pulp fibers.

34. [Previously presented] The crack-resistant paper or board as claimed in Claim 27 wherein the geometrical formations are rectangular stripes.

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35. [Previously presented] The crack-resistant paper or board as claimed in Claim 27 wherein the geometrical formations are equi-distant circles.

36. [Previously presented] The crack-resistant paper or board as claimed in Claim 27 wherein the geometrical formations are diamond-shape formations.

37. [Previously presented] The crack-resistant paper or board as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the paper or board is calendered.

38. [Previously presented] The crack-resistant paper or board as claimed in Claim 4, wherein the paper or board is calendered.

39. [New] The crack-resistant paper or board as claimed in Claim 18, wherein the paper or board has a polymer material coated on a surface of the paper or board.

40. [New] The paper crack-resistant paper or board as claimed in Claim 39, wherein the coated surface of the paper or board comprises print.

41. [New] The paper crack-resistant paper or board as claimed in Claim 31, wherein the coated surface of the paper or board comprises print.

42. [New] The paper crack-resistant paper or board as claimed in Claim 8, wherein the coated surface of the paper or board comprises print.